

GIORDANO

Appl. No 10/597,861

REMARKS

Before the drafting of the present response Applicant and his interpreter have on several occasions unsuccessfully attempted to reach the Examiner and his Supervisor by telephone.

If the present submission is still rejected Applicant respectfully asks those persons to provide him with a true opportunity to exercise this fundamental right of discussing his invention with the USPTO.

Turning back to the Office Action dated September 14, 2010; in an effort to meet all the requirements of US patent law, Applicant drafted a new claim (No 14) which is essentially based on the original specification. To this effect, please see page 4 of the English translation of the certified copy of the PCT application submitted to the USPTO on May 26, 2010.

The Prestinari's reference does not disclose the following features of new claim 14 :

- Slots on both elongate elements,
- Recto-verso button,
- Recto-verso button located between the slots,
- Stopping effect of the recto-button for the elongate elements.

In the Prestinari's system there is only one slot on one elongate element. The other elongate element does not include a slot.

The presence of one slot on each elongate element (together with a recto-verso button) is required in the present invention. Otherwise the sliding effect between the elongate elements cannot be obtained.

In fact the length adjusting system according to the invention is very different from the system disclosed in the Prestinari's reference. This important structural and functional difference is now clearly underlined in new claim 14.

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With the entry of those amendments and remarks, claim 14 is now pending in the application. Favorable consideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted

Giuseppe Giordano

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Giuseppe Giordano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with some loops and variations in line thickness.